

## BUTLER'S REIGN IN NEW ORLEANS.

Butler's War on the Women of New Orleans.

(From the New Orleans Democrat.)

But of all the cases of brutality to women that of Mrs. Phillips was the most flagrant and infamous. This lady had but recently come to the city; her husband, at the commencement of the war, was a distinguished lawyer of the bar of Mobile, which city he had represented in the United States Congress. Permanently and most comfortably located with his family in Washington, he had earnestly opposed secession at the beginning of the agitation, and sought, in every possible way, to induce his Southern friends to compromise and avoid extreme resorts. When, however, the war broke out he had no other alternative but to give his sympathies to the cause of his native South. Remaining in Washington for some time to settle up his affairs, Mr. Phillips not only observed himself but impressed upon his family the duty of observing the most prudent demeanor toward the Federals, who, in their excited condition, were constantly suspecting all persons in Washington of Southern nativity and tendency of some traitorous design. Notwithstanding their caution and prudence, the family of Mr. Phillips did not escape persecution. His wife and daughter were arrested and committed to prison as dangerous spies and enemies. To this general charge was added the specification that one of Mrs. Phillips' children had spat at a Federal soldier who was passing by her house. On these charges Mrs. Phillips was imprisoned in a garret with her large family, with a guard of soldiers to whose rude remarks she was compelled to listen. After some weeks of imprisonment, her husband and friends all the while seeking to obtain a hearing and trial, and even to know the specific complaint and by whom made against her, Mrs. Phillips and her young children were released on condition of their leaving and going South. Thus driven from a comfortable and luxurious home Mr. Phillips came to the city of New Orleans with his family and settled here with a view of prosecution, his prosecution and securing a safe home for his family. He had resided here but a few months when the city was captured by the United States squadron and occupied by Federal troops.

Though a spirited and vivacious lady the experience which Mrs. Phillips had of the brutality of upstart military commanders, and the counsel and dignified prudence of her husband, induced the practice of the strictest propriety and discretion on her part and on that of her children in regard to Federal officers and soldiers. This course was rendered the more necessary by the vicinity of her residence to the headquarters and one of the principal camps of the Federals, her house being opposite the Lafayette square, and within a few doors of the City Hall. Entirely abstaining from any and all duties, Mrs. Phillips had nearly forgotten the presence of the Federal troops in her neighborhood when one afternoon, during a festival in the next house, she was standing on the balcony talking with one of her neighbors who was relating some laughable incident of the festival or the festivity, when suddenly looking down the street, she perceived a funeral procession, a very common incident on this principal thoroughfare of all public processions. There was nothing unusual in this cortege, and the only circumstance which excited any special remark by Mrs. Phillips was the intent and curious glances with which she was regarded by some of the officers who were riding in the front carriage. This proved to be the funeral cortege of young Lieut. DeKay, who had been mortally wounded by some boys on the Tche during one of the Federal raids. As a member of one of the "distinguished families" of the North, and not with reference to any special merit or glory in the manner of his death, Lieut. DeKay was regarded as a proper subject for a grand and ostentatious funeral. Many officers of superior rank and service, who had lost their lives in the service, had been hurried off to the Potter's field in the most unceremonious manner, with no other following but a squad of infantry, and without a single carriage, or as much consideration or respect as are paid to our slaves in their funeral ceremonies. But young DeKay was too "highly connected" for so simple and unpretending a style of interment, and some pretentious officers thought it a good occasion to display a little pomp, as much from vanity as from a desire to exhibit their defiance and scorn of a people who could not sincerely deplore the fate which had overtaken the rash and reckless young man, who had left his comfortable home, hurried to a distant country to lay waste the homes of those who had never wronged him, and had fallen in an ignominious marauding expedition. There was another circumstance which forbade all pity and sympathy for the misguided youth who had so ingloriously fallen.

During his illness DeKay was attended by a negro slave whom he had enticed from his mistress, and whom he styled his "own boy" and servant. The highly-colored description of his funeral in the Delta contained a very touching allusion to the fidelity of this slave, Nelson, "who led the charge of the deceased officer in the funeral cortege." This Nelson was the house servant and slave of a citizen, who had been deceived from his comfortable home and his lawful owner by Lieut. DeKay and his companion in arms. To give eclat to the funeral of this Federal officer, the people of New Orleans were honored with an invitation to attend at Christ Church and join in the ceremonies. Such an invitation could only have proceeded from a desire to mortify and insult the people, or from an opinion that the most contemptuous which could be shown to them that they were capable of the imbecility and hypocrisy of professing grief and respect for the fate of a young man who had been slain in an attempt to ravage our country and murder our people. Whatever was the motive of this invitation, it is due to the people to say that it met no response but that which native good taste and dignity suggested—that of silent indifference.

Not even the Union men of New Orleans would occupy the seats reserved for them in the church and the carriages, and the only participants in the funeral honors were Lieut. DeKay, besides the Federal officers, were a few negroes, newsmen and street loafers, who were drawn to the church by the

the music and the military spectacle. If among so reckless and disorderly a crowd there were indeed manifestations of insensibility or levity, it was a result for which the respectable portion of the population could not be held responsible. It was rather the fault of the managers of the funeral that they did not take steps to prevent such indecent exhibitions. Disgusted at the consequences of their own bad management, and the meagre aspect of what was intended to be an ostentatious ceremony, the Federal officers having charge of the funeral eagerly sought a pretext for offense against some respectable citizen. The smile which lingered on Mrs. Phillips' face, provoked by the merry incident just related to her by neighbor at the moment the head of the funeral procession reached her door, was seized upon as the desired pretext. The officer who particularly noticed the suspicious "traitorous smile," reported the fact to Gen. Butler, who was thrown into a white heat of fury by learning that the people of New Orleans did not turn out in a body to honor the remains and memory of one who had fallen in an attempt to invade the homes of their fellow-citizens.

When the character of the crowd which filled the church during the funeral service was reported to him he swore that if he had been present he would have ordered out a section of artillery and leveled the church with the ground. The charge against Mrs. Phillips, however, would afford him an opportunity to obtain some revenge and satisfaction, and an officer with a guard was sent to arrest that lady and bring her before Butler. This was promptly done, with the abruptness and severity of a military arrest, and the lady, accompanied by her husband, appeared before the infuriated general. Livid with rage, he called her attention to his placard in regard to "she adders," and asked her why she smiled or giggled on the evening when the funeral procession of Lieut. DeKay was passing her house. The lady promptly replied that it was because she happened to be very merry at the time. "That will do," roared Butler, stamping the floor and gesticulating violently. "I will give you something to be merry for. Prepare, madame, for close imprisonment during this war on Ship Island." Mr. Phillips here begged to remind Gen. Butler that while he and Mrs. Phillips were in his power and had no means of resisting him, that she was a lady and that he would not suffer her to be insulted. Butler ordered him to be silent and threatened to call in a guard and have him gagged. Mrs. Phillips then retired in charge of a guard and was committed to the custody of Capt. Stafford. The reader should not imagine that Butler did not understand the bearing of Mrs. Phillips' reply, at which he affected so much indignation. He knew well that lady, if permitted to proceed, would have explained the reason of her merriment, which had no relation whatever to the funeral of Lieut. DeKay. But it was the game of the sharp pettifogger to give a false meaning to her confession, and she had said just enough to afford him grounds for such misinterpretation and distortion. "It was then a merry occasion and the subject, indeed, the cause of a gallant young officer, who had died in defense of the union, the she adder!" Of course, he was left in no doubt as to what the lady intended to add, and the circumstance was fully explained to him that the lady's gaiety had no reference to the funeral of DeKay. But this made no difference. A most insulting, false, and dastardly card was published in the papers in which Mrs. Phillips was styled "not a common but an uncommon woman," and condemning her to solitary imprisonment for two years on Ship Island and to soldiers' rations, and forbidding her to communicate with any one except through headquarters. The phrase not a common woman had reference in this order to the words of the notorious and infamous order No. 28, to which we shall presently allude, which order directed his soldiers to treat as "common women" any female who should offer any insult or offense to the United States officers or soldiers.

(To be Continued.)

TWO SYRIANS WHO LIVE IN TENNESSEE.—Among the crowds of visitors at the White House yesterday, the most noticeable were two naturalized Syrians, dressed in their native costume, including the red fez cap. They were father and son, and were accompanied as "Yusef Awad Arblay" and "Nazhet Arblay." They came to receive the President's salutation and to ask his aid in their effort to secure from the Mohammedan Government of Damascus the little sum of \$1,000, as indemnity for the loss of a goodly estate of a forced laborer twenty years ago. In both missions they were successful. Yusef is a resident of Tennessee, and is an honored citizen of Maryville. He brings with him the strongest testimonials from the patriarchs of the Greek Church and the Protestant missionaries in Syria. For many years he has labored in Damascus, and his labors among our American missionaries are indebted for their skill in the Arabic tongue. In 1861 he, with other Christians, was driven from Damascus by the Mohammedans, who murdered some 5,000 Jews and Christians and forced those who escaped the slaughter to flee to places of refuge. Yusef hid for three days in a hole in the walls of his house, and then succeeded in reaching the seashore. Three years ago he came with his wife and six children to America, and the mild climate of Tennessee persuaded him to make his home amid its hills. His wife soon died, but the patriarch has an interesting family of six sons and two daughters. Several of the sons are Presbyterians, and one a member of the Society of Friends. All of them are far above the average American in education, intellectual power and gentlemanly deportment.

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